Attorney Docket No.: 37697-0039 Firmation No.: 8881 N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Edward W. MERRILL et al.

Serial No.:

09/764,445

Filing Date:

January 19, 2001

Title:

RADIATION AND MELT TREATED ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR

WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE PROSTHETIC DEVICES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97. A copy of each of the listed documents are being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.99.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants believe that the instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

October 8, 2003

Date

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